

Remarks

Applicants are concurrently filing an information disclosure statement which includes references cited by the Examiner in the parent application, US Serial No. 10/273,896 (Attorney Docket No. A2395-US-NP).

In sections 1-3 of the Action, the Examiner listed a number of informalities. Applicants have amended the specification to correct the deficiencies. Applicants wish to thank the Examiner for obtaining the updated application status information and for noting the typographical error in Table 1. Reconsideration of the application as amended is respectfully requested.

The Examiner made the following rejections:

Claims 1-3, 5-14 under 35 USC 102(b) as being anticipated by Koezuka et al., US Patent 5,107,308.

Claims 1-7, 10-14 under 35 USC 102(b) as being anticipated by Tsumura et al., US Patent 5,500,537.

Claims 1-3, 5-15 under 35 USC 102(e) as being anticipated by Ong et al., US Patent 6,770,904 B2.

These rejections are respectfully traversed because the Examiner has failed to establish a prima facie case of anticipation. There is no indication in Koezuka, Tsumura and Ong of coalesced polymer aggregates. The feature of coalesced polymer aggregates is a product feature since the presence of coalesced polymer aggregates in the present semiconductor layer can be determined by microscopy techniques such as transmission electron microscopy, scanning electron microscopy and atomic force microscopy. In embodiments of the present invention, polymer aggregates form by the following exemplary aggregate formation techniques: lowering the temperature (discussed for example on page 8) and adding a poorer solvent (discussed for example on 10, second paragraph). Applicants believe these exemplary aggregate formation techniques are not disclosed in Koezuka, Tsumura and Ong, thus indicating the absence of coalesced polymer aggregates. Applicants also believe the use of aggregate formation techniques is counterintuitive for Koezuka, Tsumura and Ong since the risk of precipitation in a solution coating composition is higher by lowering the temperature and/or adding a poorer solvent; precipitation in a solution coating

composition is typically undesirable since the precipitation may degrade the properties of the solution coated film. Thus, the Examiner has failed to establish a prima facie case of anticipation.

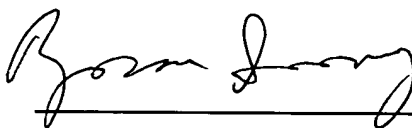
In section 8 of the Action, the Examiner states that certain "prior art made of record and not relied upon is considered pertinent to applicant's disclosure." Applicants believe that for these prior art references (made of record and not relied upon in section 8) there is absent the presently claimed feature of coalesced polymer aggregates.

Applicants disagree with the Examiner's position that the dependent claims are unpatentable, but need not at this time specifically address the Examiner's comments regarding the dependent claims since independent claim 1 is patentable over the cited references and thus the dependent claims are also patentable over the references.

No additional fee is believed to be required; however, the undersigned Xerox Corporation attorney authorizes the charging of any necessary fees, other than the issue fee, to Xerox Corporation Deposit Account No. 24-0025.

In view of the foregoing, the present application as amended is in condition for allowance. In the event the Examiner considers personal contact advantageous to the disposition of this case, he is hereby requested to call the undersigned attorney at (585) 423-4292, Rochester, NY.

Respectfully submitted,

A handwritten signature in cursive script, appearing to read "Zosan Soong", written over a horizontal line.

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